

Handy Family Tree

A family tree is a picture that shows members of your family. It can include information about each person. Do this activity to create your own family tree. Include fun facts about each family member on their very own handprint!

Did You Know?

Inherited traits are physical characteristics that can be passed down from parent to child. Learned traits are acquired other traits through interactions with their environment. This activity can help you learn to distinguish between inherited and learned traits.

Materials needed

- One large piece of paper or poster board
- Colored paper (one for each family member)
- Scissors
- Pens or markers
- Tape or glue



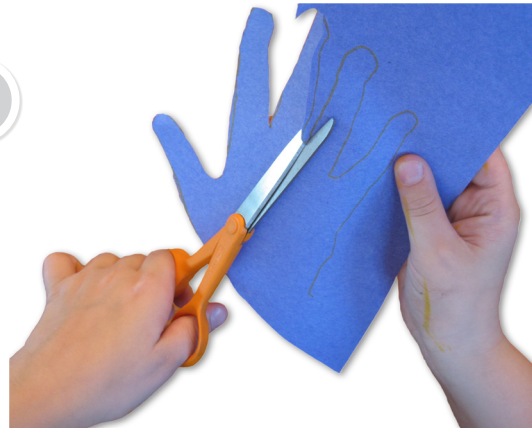
Instructions

1



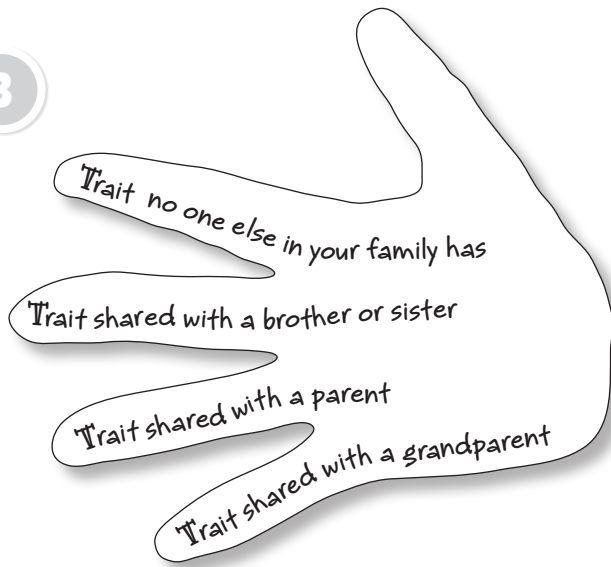
Trace the right and left hand of each family member onto a piece of colored paper

2



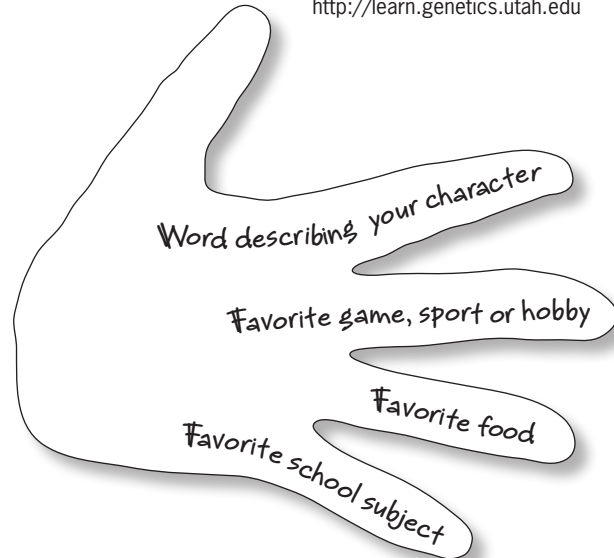
Cut out the handprints

3



On each finger of your left handprint list a trait (physical characteristic) that you have inherited such as:

- eye color
- hair color
- dimples
- freckles
- chin shape (smooth or cleft)
- ability to roll the tongue
- earlobe attachment (attached or free)
- hairline shape on the forehead (smooth or pointed)



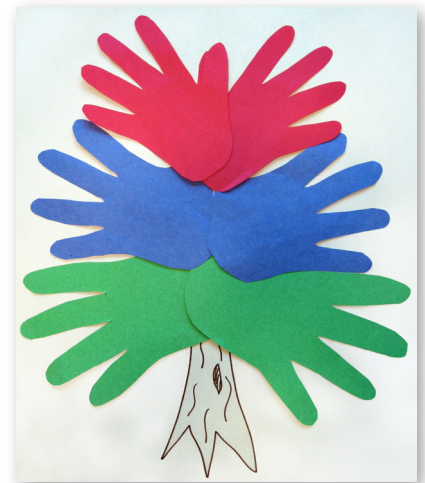
On each finger of your right handprint, list a trait that you have acquired or learned.
See suggestions above.

4

Draw a tree trunk onto a large piece of paper or poster board.

5

Glue or tape your family's handprints above the trunk to form a tree. Place the oldest person's pair of hands at the bottom. Work upward until you place the youngest person's pair of hands at the top.



Optional

- Add a small picture of each family member to the palm of one handprint. Write their name, date of birth, and place of birth on the palm of the other handprint.
- Include handprint shapes for family members who were not available to draw their hands. See how your parents' or grandparents' favorites compare to yours!

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